GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1726
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Surface Water Pollution
Premachandran Shri N.K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce schemes for preventing the deterioration of surface water quality due to river and lake pollution and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to extend financial assistance/support to the State Governments for prevention of surface water pollution and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has received project proposal from Kerala for prevention of water pollution and conservation of water bodies, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
(d) the action taken by the Government for protection of Ashtamudi Lake in Kollam, Kerala?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)&(b) The Ministry is implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) for conservation of rivers, lakes and wetlands in the country. The NRCP has covered polluted stretches of 31 rivers in 75 towns spread over 14 States at a sanctioned cost of ?4517.82 crore out of which ? 1941.6 crore has been released to various State Governments for implementation of pollution abatement schemes. The NPCA scheme was implemented under two separate schemes before February, 2013 namely National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) and National Wetlands Conservation Programme (NWCP). The Ministry has so far approved conservation projects of 63 lakes in 14 States at a cost of ?1096.09 crore under NLCP/NPCA and released ?631 crore to various State Governments including Kerala. Under NWCP/NPCA, an amount of ?146.94 crore has been released by the Ministry to State Governments including Kerala for undertaking conservation activities in 82 identified wetlands.

(c)&(d) The Ministry has received Comprehensive Management Action Plan (CMAP) for conservation and restoration of Sasthamkotta wetland of Kerala at a cost of ?24.8 crore. The Ashtamudi lake, Kollam district, Kerala was designated as Ramsar site in 2002 under the Ramsar Convention. The Ministry had notified the wetland under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 in November, 2010. Under NWCP/NPCA a grant of ?53.08 lakh for Sasthamkotta, ?97.19 lakh for Ashtamudi and ?60 lakh for Kottuli wetlands have been released for various conservation activities including afforestation, soil conservation, education, awareness and joint forest management activities.

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